

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, in light of the present amendments and following discussion, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 5-13 are pending. By this amendment, Claims 2, 3 and 4 are canceled and Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the allowable features of Claim 3 and portions of intermediate Claim 2. No new matter has been added.

Applicants appreciate the Office Action's indication that Claims 9-13 are allowed and Claim 3 contains allowable subject matter.

The Office Action rejects Claims 1, 2, 4, 5 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S.P. 4,186,649 to Sundstrom, Claim 6 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sundstrom in view of U.S.P. 2,915,043 to Neiner and Claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Sundstrom in view of U.S.P. 5,957,028 to Tischer et al. These rejections are moot.

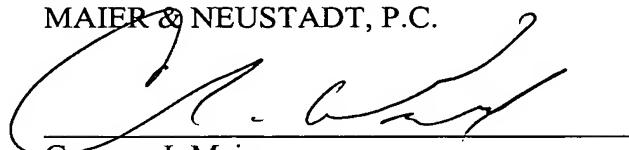
The dependent claims are allowable for at least the reasons discussed above as well as for the individual features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that this application is now in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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